



DEVONSHIRE DISPATCH

www.devonshireprimary.org

3rd February 2025

Devonshire Diary

[Devonshire website](#)
[calendar](#)

Fri 7th Feb - NSPCC
number day

Mon 10th Feb - Robins
local walk

Tues 11th Feb - Swans
local walk

Tues 11th Feb - Safer
Internet Day

Weds 12th Feb -
Sparrows local walk

Weds 12th Feb (9am) -
Family Support Worker
coffee morning

Fri 14th Feb – PSA cake
sale

Mon 17th – Fri 21st Feb –
half term

Mon 24th - Fri 28th Feb
- Hawthorn swimming

Thurs 27th Feb - Y3 trip
to Butser Farm

Mon 3rd – Fri 7th March
– Hazel swimming

Mon 3rd March (3.30pm)
– PSA meeting

Weds 5th March – PSA
clothes collection

Thursday 6th March –
World Book Day

Mon 10th – Fri 14th
March – Aspen
swimming

OFSTED

OFSTED inspectors visited Devonshire on 14th and 15th January. As soon as we receive their finalised report, we will share this with you. Thank you for your supportive words and thoughts during the inspection; they meant a lot and showed what a fabulous community Devonshire is.

In January, a number of children have represented the school. This has included:

- 3 classes having swimming sessions (Cedar, Elm and Holly). Their class teachers and swimming teachers at Tadworth Leisure Centre all commented on the progress that the children made during their week of swimming lessons and what excellent ambassadors they are for Devonshire.
- Year 5 all having water safety workshops with the Sutton School's Partnership.
- A team of Year 6 children representing Devonshire at a tennis festival at the Sutton Tennis and Squash Club.
- A team of Year 6 children representing Devonshire at the borough's Indoor Athletics competition
- 4 members of our chess club representing the school in a chess tournament.
- Our School Councillors welcoming Luke Taylor (our local MP) to one of their meetings.

Working with parents/carers

It was lovely to welcome many parents/carers to our recent Reception phonics workshop. Feedback received showed parents/carers found it useful to see a phonics session in their child's class.

At the recent PSA AGM, parents/carers reflected on the events and successes of the last year and exciting plans for the remainder of this school year have been made.

Remember, if you have a question or query there are staff at the gates each morning, and in the playground at the end of the school day, who are always happy to help. Alternatively, pop into the school office or send us an email (office@devonshire.sutton.sch.uk) which we will pass on to the relevant member of staff. Our website includes a lot of very useful information, especially the parent portal page - [Devonshire Primary School Parent Portal](#)

Our continued work with parents/carers is validating our work on the Leading Parent Partnership Award, which we are hoping to achieve by the end of the school year.

Chess news

Members of our chess club (Rii, Jaismitha, Varshika and Myra) have recently participated in the ECF National Schools Girls' Team Championships 2025, Southern Zone. Mr Buckley, our chess teacher, commented that the girls all performed magnificently throughout the day's competition. It was a superb result to finish in the 'top half of the tournament' on 8 points out of 15. We finished in 25th place out of 61 teams and the girls all learned a lot about playing chess throughout the day.

Thank you very much to Mr Buckley for organising the team and to the parents/carers of the team for all of their support.



devonshiresm2



Devonshire Primary School



@DevonshireSM2

Indoor athletics news

On the 16th of January, 18 Year 6 children participated in several track and field events. We competed against 8 schools from the borough of Sutton and came in 4th place with 150 points. This event was held in Wallington High School for Girls sports hall. We walked to Sutton station and travelled to Wallington by train. After the short train ride, we took a bus to Wallington Girls. The track and field events were all done indoors. Examples of these are: javelin, high jump, speed bounce, and relay races. 146 children took part in these events. Our favourite events were javelin and the over and under relay race. The teams were separated by gender and everyone was tested to their limits. We cheered and supported every teammate in every race we competed in. Although we may not have come in first place, it was an excellent team building experience.

Written by Rii and Shourya

School Council news

On Friday 10th January, the School Councillors met the MP for Sutton and Cheam, Luke Taylor. He helped us to learn more about parliament and our local area. His visit to school followed on from our visit to the Houses of Parliament in November. We asked him questions about pollution and how we can make the prices of houses cheaper. His answers helped us to understand the work that is being done in these areas but also the challenges being faced. We enjoyed meeting him and learnt a lot from his visit.

Written by Harry and Vanesha

Family Support Worker news

The next Family Support Worker coffee morning is on Wednesday 12th February (9 – 10am). Everyone is welcome! It is an ideal opportunity to meet new parents as well as staff from our pastoral team. There will also be a selection of professionals from the London Borough of Sutton who will be able to answer any questions you may have about parenting/health or to help you find out information of services available to you that you may not have known about.

Attendance and Punctuality news

Our whole school attendance is currently 95.8%, with Larks having the highest attendance of 97.9%.

A reminder that if your child is absent, their absence needs to be reported by 9.15am either in person or by telephone, email or via the school website. Also, if you have booked an appointment for your child which means they either arrive late in the morning or need to be collected early, please let the office know as soon as possible.

We are aware that there are a number of different sets of roadworks going on in the local area, which will be impacting on journeys to school. We appreciate that the impact of these is frustrating but while these roadworks are in place, please leave home a little bit earlier to avoid them making you late.

Children's Mental Health Week

This week is Children's Mental Health week. It will be theme of class assemblies as well as our whole school assembly.

Supporting children's wellbeing and mental health is very important to us as a school and is one of the key school priorities.

Our school website also has a page dedicated to wellbeing - [Devonshire Primary School - Wellbeing](#)

There is a wealth of information about Children's Mental Health Week on the internet. This website

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/articles/c0jn10nnn8xo> provides you with a good summary of what Children's Mental Health Week is and how parents/carers can support their child's mental health.

NSPCC Number Day

We are looking forward to celebrating the NSPCC Number Day in school on Friday (7th February) with a number themed mufti day and collection for charity. There is still time to send in a number themed photograph you have taken with your name and class to office@devonshire.sutton.sch.uk to be in with the chance of winning a prize. The Maths Team.

Safer Internet Day

Online safety is an important part of our computing curriculum. To complement this work, all children will be participating in Safer Internet Day activities on Tuesday 11th February. There is lots of information for parents/carers to help them support their children to stay safe online - <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Governor news

The governors' sustainability working party is working hard to ensure that sustainability is always a consideration in school and explore ways that it can be further promoted. They were interested to hear about the work of the eco group and the fact that it is being extended to include Key Stage 1 children. Eco group have a competition running at the moment – make a Valentines gift out of recyclable materials. All entries must be given to Dr Reddy by 10th February.

PSA Updates

Cake Sale

There will be a Valentine's cake sale after school on Friday 14th February, outside the main school office. Please come and buy some treats for someone sweet or treat yourself! Cakes range from 50p - £2 (cash preferred). Please bring donations of cakes for the sale, to the main office on the morning of Friday 14th February.

Clothes Collection

Our next clothes collection will be on Wednesday 5th March. Please bring any bags you have to the blue field house before 9am on the morning of the 5th.

School Discos

Our next school discos will take place on Friday 14th March. Tickets will be on sale in mid-February. If you are able to volunteer at any of the discos, please get in touch via psa@devonshireprimaryschool.co.uk

Summer Fayre

The Summer Fayre is taking place on Saturday 21st June, 12-3pm. This event will only take place if we have enough volunteers, so pop the date in your diary and consider donating a little time to help on the day.

If you have any ideas for future events, please let us know. We are excited to add new things to the diary!

Term dates for 2025/26

Please make a note of these dates, and take them into account when booking any holidays.

Autumn term

First day of term - Tuesday 2nd September 2025

INSET day (school closed for children)- Monday 6th October 2025

Half term – Monday 27th – Friday 31st October 2025

Last day of term – Friday 19th December 2025 (school closes after lunch)

Spring term

First day of term - Tuesday 6th January 2026

Half term – Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026

Last day of term – Friday 27th March 2026 (school closes after lunch)

Summer term

First day of term – Tuesday 14th April 2026

Half term – Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2026

Last day of term – Friday 17th July 2026 (school closes after lunch)

With the exception of the INSET day on the 6th October, we have ensured that all other INSET days are either at the beginning or ends of terms, so the term dates above take account of INSET days.

Lost Property

If your child has lost anything, please do look in lost property as it might well be in there. Lost property is in the front entrance hall and available for parent/carers to look through on any day.

Lost lunchtime bands

If your child brings home a coloured wrist band from lunchtime, please can you return them to the class teacher or school office.

Parkrun

Park Run is a weekly free, community event where you can walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate with friends and family. It provides you with the opportunity to keep fit, enjoy the outdoors, meet others and have fun. More information can be found on their website - [home | parkrun UK](#)

The most local Parkrun is at Nonsuch Park, with a Junior Parkrun taking place each Sunday morning (9am). A new junior parkrun has just started at Wilson's School in Wallington, also taking place at 9am, each Sunday. With the weather, hopefully, brightening up as spring approaches, it might be something that you want to try.